



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

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August 19, 1986

FILE COPY

Mr. York F. Jones
Utah International Inc.
Cedar City Operations
228 South 800 West
Cedar City, Utah 84720

Dear Mr. Jones:

Re: Request for Reclamation Variances, Utah International
Incorporated, Cedar City Iron Mine Operations, ACT/021/001,
Iron County, Utah

The Division has completed the review of Utah International Incorporated requests (dated May 28, 1986 and June 11, 1986) for a reclamation variance and to delete the Comstock-Iron Springs Road and the Blackbird-Irene Road from the Iron Springs Permit. Division biologist, Lynn Kunzler has performed an indepth review of the correspondence which has transpired to date. He has prepared a technical memo summarizing the results of his findings and has made recommendations based upon the same.

We have received a copy of a letter from the Bureau of Land Management dated July 30, 1986 which releases UII from further maintenance responsibilities on the Blue Bird Road. This letter, combined with the documentation provided to date by UII is deemed adequate to grant a variance releasing UII from further reclamation responsibility for the Comstock-Iron Springs Road and the Blackbirk-Irene Road. Both roads will now be deleted from the permit area.

Conceptually, the Division is prepared to approve of the entire request. However, the following information is still necessary before the overall request can be approved:

Iron Springs Mill/Plant complex & Coarse Tails Pile

Utah International Inc. (UII), states that the Iron Springs Mill and Plant complex (45 acres) is being dismantled and the stockpiled iron ore has now been shipped. The area will eventually become an industrial plant site utilizing the remaining buildings, railroad siding, and office complex.

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The coarse tails pile (14 acres) at the Iron Springs mill site is still being used commercially and will become part of UII's industrial plant site.

The Comstock Plant and Railroad site (36 acres) are being used by U.S. Steel to ship iron ore, and will remain for some time.

Title 40-8-21 Temporary Suspension or Termination of Operations

1. With regards to the Comstock site, it may be more appropriate for UII to transfer the permit to U. S. Steel and thus the reclamation responsibility. A signed transfer agreement between UII and U. S. Steel in this matter would be acceptable to the Division.
2. UII must provide the Division with accurate written documentation that supports the proposed alternate land use(s) liability and that the proposal is likely to take place within a reasonable amount of time.

This could include a written commitment and proposed schedule to build and/or utilize the industrial complex from the responsible entity(ies). The written commitment should also identify the responsible party(ies) who will assume all further liability for continued use and maintenance of the site(s).

3. UII must upgrade the site(s) to a sound, stable configuration suitable for the postmining land use prior to release by the Division.

It is the Division's understanding that Iron County is utilizing the coarse tails pile for road base/fill material on a continuing basis.

4. UII must provide a written request from Iron County and/or other interested parties that the waste rock stockpiled in this area will continue to be used as a source for these materials. The request must also identify who will assume liability for continued use should UII be released from further reclamation responsibility.

Upon receipt of the remaining information, the Division will prepare a final decision on the request of variance. Our apologies for the unexpected delay in responding to your request. Please call me, Wayne Hedberg or Lynn Kunzler should you have any questions or concerns.

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We appreciate your cooperation in completing this permitting action.

Sincerely,



L. P. Braxton
Administrator
Mineral Resource Development
and Reclamation Program

DWH:jvb
cc: S. Hansen, BLM
K. May
L. Kunzler
S. Linner
8992R